



Dave Heineman
Governor

STATE OF NEBRASKA

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April 28, 2008

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
235 Cannon House Office Bldg
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Madam Speaker:

We are writing to respectfully request that you use your position as Speaker of the House of Representatives to bring forward, for immediate action, the Colombia and South Korea Free Trade Agreements with the United States. We believe these agreements, if approved, will be very beneficial to Nebraska's agriculture industry, particularly our livestock sector, which is struggling financially at present.

In Nebraska, the livestock sector annually accounts for about two-thirds of all agricultural cash receipts. However, our farmers and ranchers are enduring very difficult profitability challenges. In fact, pork producers are currently losing as much as \$60 per head, and cattle feeders are losing up to \$200 to \$300 per head. The Free Trade Agreements with both Colombia and South Korea hold great opportunity for Nebraska, and American livestock producers in general, to increase demand for our quality meat exports and decrease our per head losses.

The importance of foreign trade to Nebraska and U.S. agriculture cannot be overstated. The Colombian FTA represents an additional \$690 million in gains to America's farmers and ranchers, including \$10-\$20 million to the beef industry and \$160 million to the pork industry. The South Korea FTA is much larger, representing \$1 billion to each of our two largest livestock sectors.

Nebraska farmers and ranchers are negatively impacted when they are not allowed to offer their products competitively in the world's grocery stores. Again, we respectfully request that you bring the Colombia and South Korea Free Trade Agreements before the House of Representatives for a vote. Thank you for your immediate consideration of this request.

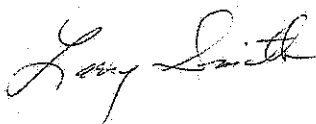
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Dave Heineman".

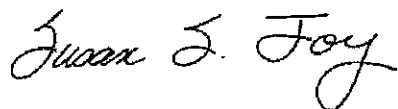
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Senator Philip Erdman
Chair, Committee on Agriculture
Nebraska Legislature



Nebraska Cattlemen




Nebraska Poultry Industries



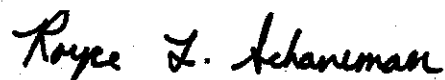
Nebraska Soybean Board



Nebraska Corn Growers



Nebraska Grain Sorghum Board



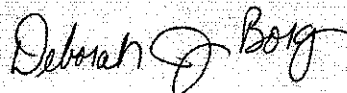
Nebraska Wheat Growers
Nebraska Wheat Board



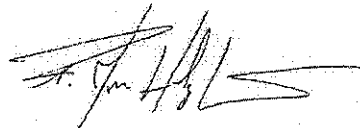
Nebraska Pork Producers



Nebraska Farm Bureau Federation



Nebraska Soybean Association



Nebraska Corn Board



Nebraska Grain Sorghum Producers